

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

3. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [either of claims 1 and 2] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with a component selected from IgMs, IgG F(ab')₂s and the hapten DNP, with a level of enrichment of greater than 40 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs.
4. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with at least one of the autoantigens selected from myosin, actin, tubulin and myelin basic protein (MBP), with a level of enrichment of greater than 10 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs.
6. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with myosin, actin, tubulin and MBP.
7. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with a component selected from IgMs, IgG F(ab')₂s and the hapten DNP, with a level of enrichment of greater than 40 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs, and with myosin, actin, tubulin and MBP, with a mean level of enrichment of greater than 20 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs.
8. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with IgMs or IgG F(ab')₂s.
9. (Amended) The fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, characterized in that it reacts with the hapten DNP and in that it does not react with IgMs and IgG F(ab')₂s.
12. (Amended) The method as claimed in [either of claims 10 and 11] claim 10, characterized in that the Ig fractions are prepared from polyvalent Igs or any other intermediate fraction obtained during the method for producing IVIGs for therapeutic use.

14. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 13] claim 10, characterized in that step d) comprises measuring the level of enrichment of antibodies reactive against IgMs, IgG F(ab')₂s or the hapten DNP used for the purification.
15. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 14] claim 10, characterized in that step d) comprises measuring the reactivity for the tetanus toxoid and the HBs antigen, taking the level of enrichment as a control value.
16. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 15] claim 10, characterized in that step d) comprises an ELISA assay carried out on a panel of autoantigens selected in particular from actin, myosin, MBP and tubulin.
17. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 16] claim 10, characterized in that step d) comprises a competition assay in order to control the neutralizing activity of the fractions with respect to autoantibodies originating from serum of patients suffering from autoimmune diseases.
18. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 17] claim 10, characterized in that step d) comprises an assay of inhibition of the mixed lymphocyte reaction with human cells in order to control the reactivity of the purified Igs.
19. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 18] claim 10, characterized in that step a) consists in grafting polyvalent IgGs, polyvalent IgMs or DNP-Lysine onto an insoluble support, in particular onto a Sepharose®, Trisacryl®, Affiprep® or Affigel® gel, or gels activated with the groups CNBr, NHS or C₅H₈O₂ (glutaraldehyde).
20. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 19] claim 10, characterized in that the Igs deposited onto the solid support obtained in step a) are adsorbed either in the form of polyvalent IgGs lyophilized and redissolved or in liquid form, or in the form of intermediate fractions obtained during a method for

producing polyvalent IgGs, in 20 mM phosphate buffer containing NaCl, the concentration of which may range from 0 M to 3 M.

21. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 20] claim 10, characterized in that the Igs retained in step b) are eluted with a buffer containing ions which dissociate Ag-Ab or Ag-DNP binding, selected in particular from chaotropes such as glycine-HCl or sodium iodide (NaI), under conditions which vary the pH, preferably between 2.8 and 4.0, and/or the molarity of the buffer.
22. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 21] claim 10, characterized in that the absorption is carried out under temperature conditions ranging from 4° to 40°C and in PBS.
23. (Amended) The method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 22] claim 10, characterized in that, in step d), fractions [as claimed in one of claims 1 to 9 are] characterized in that it reacts with at least one component selected from IgMs, IgG F(ab')₂s and the hapten DNP, with a level of enrichment of greater than 20 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs, and in that it does not react with the tetanus toxoid or the HBs antigen, with a level of enrichment of less than 5 compared to the activity of the initial polyvalent Igs is selected.
25. (Amended) A fraction which can be obtained using a method as claimed in [one of claims 10 to 24] claim 10.
26. (Amended) The use of an Ig fraction as claimed in [one of claims 1 to 9 and 25] claim 1, for preparing a medicinal product.